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ABSTRACT

In order to determine the qualifications and responsibilities of nursing laboratory instructors (NLI's) nationwide, a questionnaire was sent to the 137 Associate Degree nursing programs accredited by the National League for Nurses. Replies were received from 103 schools (75%). Results are presented in two tables. Data indicate that: 64% of the NLI's have R.N. degrees, only 33% are paid the regular faculty salary, 47% monitor 31-40 hours of lab per week, 89% participate in nursing faculty meetings, approximately 80% maintain records and inventories of teaching materials and equipment, 68% maintain a small library, 73% keep statistics on lab utilization, 39% do clinical teaching in the classroom, 38% accompany students to the hospital, 20% accompany students on community visits, 81% prepare and schedule demonstrations of specific equipment and techniques relative to the skills and content being studied in the classroom, 93% check students on these skills, 58% grade students on these skills, and 26% conduct walk-around lab exams. (DC)

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QUALIFICATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR

NURSING LABORATORY INSTRUCTORS

IN

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

DEGREE PROGRAMS

April, 1976

Conducted By:

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INTRODUCTION

The following criterion was used in selecting the samples for this survey on the qualifications and responsibilities for nursing laboratory instructors.

Questionnaires were sent only to Associate Degree nursing programs accredited by the National League for Nurses (N.L.N.)

The survey was mailed during March, 1976, to 137 Associate Degree programs throughout the United States. Replies were received from 103 schools (75% response) and 87 indicated a desire to have the results of the survey returned to them.

The total nursing enrollment at the responding schools are summarized below:

Number of nursing students enrolled	Percentage
50-149	47%
150-249	32%
250-399	12%
400-2024	9%

The survey data are summarized in two tables.

Table 1 summarizes the qualifications of the laboratory instructors while Table 2 summarizes the responsibilities of the instructor.

Appreciation is expressed to all who so quickly and willingly responded to the survey. Appreciation is also expressed to Mary Lou Taylor, coordinator of the nursing program and Elaine Tatham, Director of Institutional Research for their help and advice.

Table 1
QUALIFICATIONS OF NURSING LABORATORY INSTRUCTORS

Questions	Percentage - Yes
Have a nursing laboratory	
yes	94%
no	6
Lab monitored by nursing instructor	
yes	89%
no	7
only during scheduled lab periods by instructor	3
no answer	1
Hours/week lab monitored	
0-20 hours	23%
21-30 hours	3
31-40 hours	47
41-55 hours	12
56 plus	6
others*	9
Academic qualifications	
R.N.	64%
A.D. Program	28
Baccalaureate Program	35
Masters	19
Others**	5
Hourly pay scale	
Regular faculty salary	33%
$2.50 - $3.50/hour	2
$4.00 - $4.99/hour	9
$5.00 - $5.99/hour	7
$6.00 - $6.99/hour	3
$8.00 plus	5
$7,000 - $7,999, 9 - 10 months	3
$8,000 - $8,999, 9 - 10 months	8
$10,000 plus, 9 - 10 months	5
Varies with education and qualifications	7
No answer	18
Part-time instructor	
yes	24%
no	64
both full-time and part-time	7
no answer	5
Is part-time lab covered at other times	
yes	68%
no	20
no answer	12
If yes, by whom	
Technical assistants	35
Faculty	47
Work study nursing students***	29

*varies from semester to semester

**lab technicians, critical care speciality, nursing assistant; several also have more than one qualification, e.g., Registered Nurse and Baccalaureate Degree.

***Frequently faculty and work study students covered the lab together.

Table 2

RESPONSIBILITIES OF NURSING LABORATORY INSTRUCTORS

Responsibilities	Percentage - Yes
Does clinical teaching in classroom	39%
Accompanies students to hospital	38
Accompanies students on community visits	20
Participates in nursing faculty meetings	89%
Maintains records and inventories of all teaching AVT materials and equipment	80%
Maintains files of teaching materials, pamphlets, etc.	79
Maintains a small library	68
Prepares and schedules demonstrations of specific equipment and techniques relative to skills and content being studied by students	81%
Checks students on these skills	93%
Grades students on these skills*	58
Conducts walk-around lab exams	26
Keeps statistics on use of lab	73%
Has authority to request the following:	
Pamphlets	76%
Films	69
Speakers	49

*Many commented this is pass-fail only.

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